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89. *Settlement Tharapattom.*

Mr. C. Raghava Menon also spoke on the subject of *Tharapattom* and supported the request made by Mr. Mathan the other member for Changanacheri.

Dewan's reply.—Government have not yet considered the matter. They are aware of inequalities in Changanacheri. The matter will be considered when the block statements come up.

The same member represented—

90. *Provision for appeals in Registration cases.*

that it was a hardship that appeals against the decisions of the Registering officers were not provided for under the new Settlement scheme. The provision made for revising the decisions had not, he said, met the requirements of the situation. The exercise of the power of revision was not compulsory, but was confined to the rectification of errors when detected; and in the hurry of completing their programme of work, the superior officers could not find time to attend to that portion of their duties. Patta, it was said, did not confer title to land. Great value, however, was being attached to it in the Courts and the real owner of a land could not therefore be indifferent to the issue of his patta. He further said that hasty and perfunctory disposal of registration cases meant a rush of suits in the Civil courts and before a landowner could be asked to resort to them, he should have exhausted the remedies of appeal to the higher officers in the Department itself. He therefore urged that appeals from the decisions of the Supervisors should be provided for.

Dewan's reply.—You are under a wrong impression if you think that the sole object of Government is to expedite the Settlement operations under any circumstances. The object of Government in passing the recent Proceedings was solely to benefit the people. The care of Government also is that pattas should be issued to the right persons. If the people think that the system of appeals from the Supervisor to the Assistant Peishkar and from him to the Dewan Peishkar and finally to the Dewan should be revived, Government would be glad to change the rules and restore the old practice. I would advise you to think over the matter and have a meeting of the representatives convened, and if the sense of the meeting be that the rules should be changed, Government would be quite prepared to meet the wishes of the people. It is necessary to bear in mind that the early completion of the Settlement is not in the interests of Government alone.

91. *Election of Anandaravans as members of the Assembly.*

Mr. Kochappan Karthavu (Member, Mecnachil Taluk) requested that Karanavans might be allowed to elect their educated Anandaravans as members of the

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Popular Assembly. He said that in many families the Karanavan might be qualified for election but could not represent the wants and wishes of the people; while the educated Anandaravan would be able to represent those wants and wishes but could not be elected under the rules.

The same member also brought forward the following representations:—

92. Reduction of assessment on trees.

(1) That in consideration of the comparatively great difficulty in the growing of trees in the Meenachil Taluk, the assessment on the taxable trees might be reduced to one-half the existing rate:

93. Exemption from tax of diseased cocoanut trees.

(2) That cocoanut and other trees when attacked with plant disease might be exempted from taxation:

94. Levy of value of trees on Puduvals.

(3) That the rule of levying the value of trees, even useless ones, such as *muruku*, *pezha*, and *maruthu*, standing on Puduval lands might be cancelled:

5. Rule prohibiting collection cencha, eetta, &c.

(4) That the rule prohibiting the collection of *eencha*, *eetta* and *ottal* from the forests without a pass might also be cancelled as those were necessaries of every day life : and

6. Certificate of Provertikar for removal of timber from lands entered in the Ayacut.

(5) That timber standing on lands registered in the Ayacut might be allowed to be cut and transported on the strength of certificates of such registry from the Provertikar without a pass from the Forest officers.

Dewan's reply.— (Nos. 1 & 2) Noted.

(No. 3) The Conservator of Forests says that the trees mentioned are not valued. Separate representations may be made in regard to individual cases.

(No. 4) Noted.

(No. 5) The arrangement asked for, will, if allowed, lead to inconvenience and loss to Government. A pass should be obtained from the Forest officers.

Mr. Thomman Thomman (Member, Meenachil Taluk) requested—

97. Correct scales for salt Bankshalls.

(1) That the existing scales in the salt bankshalls might be replaced by others the correctness of the weighment of which could be easily understood by the people:

98. Reduction of mellabhom on tobacco.

(2) That the *mèllabhom* on tobacco might be reduced: and

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